from doubt as between the two closely allied species *duplicata* Germ. and *violacea* L. Some while later I came to the conclusion that the single tenuous British record of the latter species (cf. Fowler, 1891, *Col. Brit. Isle.*, 5:398) was most likely based on confusion with *M. duplicata*, so that probably we did not possess *violacea*; and that the Culbin specimen was in fact a very small *duplicata*. This last species is now known as a regular, though scarce, inhabitant of the Scottish Highlands. – A. A. ALLEN.

BOOK TALK FIVE. – A book of unusual historic interest is Rennie's *Conspectus*; or, to give it its full title, *A Conspectus of the Butterflies and Moths found in Britain*, by James Rennie, Professor of Zoology, Kings College, London, and published in 1832 by William Orr at 7s. 6d. Apart from a title page with a curious engraving of *Papilio machaon* together with its larva and pupa, this minute octavo no bigger than a 12mo and measuring only 150mm x 90mm is unillustrated, but contains 327 pages of small print treating of the entire Order. To a marked extent the book is an epitome of the well known and relatively expensive *Illustrations of British Entolmology* (*Haustellata*) whose author, James Francis Stephens, was engaged in a lawsuit with Rennie for alleged piracy of the *Illustrations* in the *Conspectus*. Although Rennie won the case, many scientific men showed sympathy for Stephens by subscribing to defray the heavy legal costs of the action following his defeat. On page 4, the Wood White is described as *Leucophasia loti* Rennie, a name seemingly overlooked by the authors of that most useful of lists of British lepidoptera viz., "Kloet & Hincks" (1972), but was nevertheless cited in W. F. Kirby's monumental *Synonymic Catalogue of the Diurnal Lepidoptera* [*of the World*] (1872). At least one author followed the nomenclature of the *Conspectus*, as witness E. H. Burnell in his "List of Lepidopterous Insects found in the Neighbourhood of Witham, Essex", published in 1837 in *Magazine of Natural History*, new series, 1: 601-604.

To those interested in entomological bibliography, the Royal Entomological Society has for sale a limited number of copies (which offer is not restricted to Fellows of the Society) in original wrappers, of G. C. Champion et al. (1893), *Catalogue of the Library of the Entomological Society of London*, pp.i-iv, 1-291; and *Supplement* (1900), pp. i-iv, 1-147. On estimation, the work contains fully 8500 items, and the price per copy (including the *Supplement*) is £1 plus postage, obtainable from the Librarian, 41 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HU. – J. M. CHALMERS-HUNT.

UDEA DECREPITALIS H.-S. (LEP.: PYRALIDAE) IN WALES. – On 6th June 1978 I was collecting at m.v. light on the banks of a lake near Talybont on Usk, Brecknockshire, Wales (SO 0166). The night was fairly cool and misty and little interest in the way of Lepidoptera visited the lamp apart from *Lampropteryx suffumata* D. & S., L. *otregiata* Metcalf and a pale pyralid moth which I could not immediately identify. Upon setting the moth later I came to the conclusion that the specimen (a male) was probably *Udea decrepitalis* H.-S., but thought the record required confirmation because of the locality. Recently I prepared a genitalia slide from the speci-

men and was convinced that my original identification was correct. This supposition was kindly confirmed by Mr. M. Shaffer of the Department of Entomology at the British Museum (Natural History).

To my knowledge this alpine species has not been recorded before from the British Isles outside Scotland. If I had realised the significance of the record at the time I would have tried to identify the food plant. There were a large number of fern plants growing near the lake but I did not know to what species they belonged. – P. J. JEWESS, Boyces Cottage, Newington, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 7JF.

NINETEENTH-CENTURY ISSUES OF SMITH AND ABBOT, "THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE RARER LEPIDOPTEROUS INSECTS OF GEORGIA" (1797). – In an initial study of "Smith and Abbot" (93: 213-218) I suggested that the work had a long printing history, and that its plates (some with new imprints) were available as late as three decades after the original publication. I have since been conducting a census of copies of the entire work to collect additional data.

It has long been known that some copies of the book included plates printed on paper with watermarks dated as late as the 1820s. Preliminary results of my census (based on thirty-five copies at the moment of writing) suggest that copies were made up from the original sheets of text, watermarked 1794, and successive impressions of the plates. Later copies (still with the 1797 title and initial printing of the text) have plates with watermarks dated from 1817 to 1827, and some of these copies include one or more of the original plates with 1794 watermark dates. So "new" copies of the entire "1797" work were being issued as late as 1827 and perhaps later; one of the "R. Martin" plates in the dos Passos set without text, discussed in my paper cited above, bears an 1828 watermark.

Further data could well revise these estimates, and indicate an even more interesting bibliographical history. Hopefully more will be learned about the Martin imprints. A more complete report on the printing of "Smith and Abbot" will appear in time, and I would appreciate hearing from owners of copies I have not examined. – RONALD S. WILKINSON, 228 Ninth Street, N. E., Washington, D. C. 20002.

CACOECIMORPHA PRONUBANA HBN. (LEP.: TORTRICIDAE): SUCCESSFULLY REARED ON ARTIFICIAL DIET, WITH A NOTE ON ITS DIAPAUSE REQUIREMENTS. – This species is generally polyphagous with a preference for *Euonymus japonica* (Bradley et al., 1973) and West (1982) while detailing some further foodplants, including imported foreign species, has pointed out that local preferences for food may be shown. In October last year I was given some unidentified ova which were laid on Oleander (*Nerium oleander* L.) growing in the London Butterfly House, at Syon Park, Middx. Similar eggs had also been laid on other plants. When these eggs hatched the young larvae resolutely refused to eat the Oleander leaves and those left with no other choice all died. When it was clear that they were not eating, the larvae were offered a choice of cabbage or artificial diet. The larvae immediately started feeding on both these foodplants, fed up and pupated successfully and the